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NEWS

NMTBA
The Association For
Manufacturing Technology

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MACHINE TOOL ORDERS UP IN NOVEMBER

Net new machine tool orders for November rose to $279.05 million, up 6.4% compared to October's $262.25 million, according to figures released today by NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology. November metal cutting machine tool orders were down 12.5% to $188.40 million, but metal forming orders rose 93.5% to $90.65 million.

Year-to-date total machine tool orders reached $3,274.45 million, 74.4% above the $1,877.40 million for the first 11 months of 1987. Year-to-date metal cutting orders are up 92.7%, standing at $2,461.55 million, and metal forming equipment orders are up 35.4%, standing at $812.90 million.

Comparing November 1988 to November 1987, total orders are up 103.2%, with metal cutting up 111.4% and metal forming up 88.1%.

James A. Gray, NMTBA president, said, "Across the board, 1988 has been a good year for the U.S. machine tool industry. Domestic orders are up 73.6% and foreign orders are up 79.9%. Both metal cutting and metal forming orders are up."

He continued, "U.S. manufacturers went through some difficult years in the mid-eighties. The exchange rate made selling overseas almost impossible. Prophets of doom saw the end of U.S manufacturing and predicted a service-only economy. This year's turnaround in the machine tool industry shows that American's can still make and sell quality products. Manufacturing is still an important part of the total U.S. economy."

(MORE)

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At $2,106.55 million, year-to-date total machine tool shipments are 3.5% above the total for the same period in 1987, with metal cutting shipments 5.9% below the 1987 figure and metal forming shipments up 26.7%.

Comparing November 1988 to November 1987, total shipments are up 44.7%, with metal cutting up 35.6% and metal forming up 66.5%.

November 1988 total shipments stood at $257.55 million, up 21.4% from October. November 1988 shipments of metal cutting equipment rose 17.1% to $170.80 million, while metal forming shipments rose 30.9% to $86.75 million.

The machine tool order backlog for November 1988 stood at $2,167.40 million, up from October's $2,145.90 million.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: NMTBA, formerly the National Machine Tool Builder's Association has changed its membership requirements. To reflect this change, its name is now NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology.

The entire structure of the industrial marketplace has permanently changed. A modern manufacturer looks at every part of the manufacturing system -- design, machining, forming, handling, assembly, inspection, testing, control and communications.

To meet these changes, NMTBA has broadened its scope, making membership available to every company that manufactures machinery, related equipment, products or software used in the process of manufacturing. Members are firms that produce and sell manufacturing machinery in the United States. Associate Members are firms that produce and sell related equipment, products or software used in manufacturing -- such as parts and components, accessories, attachments, tools and tooling, software, and engineering and design services.

COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
NOV 1988	164.60	23.80	188.40	66.25	24.40	90.65	230.85	48.20	279.05
OCT 1988	199.25	16.15	215.40	40.00	6.85	46.85	239.25	23.00	262.25
% CHANGE									
NOV 1988:OCT 1988	-17.4	+47.4	-12.5	+65.6	+256.2	+93.5	-3.5	+109.6	+6.4
NOV 1987	65.75	23.35	89.10	36.35	11.85	48.20	102.10	35.20	137.30
% CHANGE									
NOV 1988:NOV 1987	+150.3	+1.9	+111.4	+82.3	+105.9	+88.1	+126.1	+36.9	+103.2
YEAR TO DATE 1988	2,124.25	337.30	2,461.55	689.15	123.75	812.90	2,813.40	461.05	3,274.45
YEAR TO DATE 1987	1,139.65	137.55	1,277.20	481.40	118.80	600.20	1,621.05	256.35	1,877.40
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	+86.4	+145.2	+92.7	+43.2	+4.2	+35.4	+73.6	+79.9	+74.4

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
NOV 1988	156.70	14.10	170.80	80.15	6.60	86.75	236.85	20.70	257.55
OCT 1988	123.35	22.55	145.90	55.30	10.95	66.25	178.65	33.50	212.15
% CHANGE									
NOV 1988:OCT 1988	+27.0	-37.5	+17.1	+44.9	-39.7	+30.9	+32.6	-38.2	+21.4
NOV 1987	110.20	15.75	125.95	38.40	13.70	52.10	148.60	29.45	178.05
% CHANGE									
NOV 1988:NOV 1987	+42.2	-10.5	+35.6	+108.7	-51.8	+66.5	+59.4	-29.7	+44.7
YEAR TO DATE 1988	1,213.70	151.50	1,365.20	637.90	103.45	741.35	1,851.60	254.95	2,106.55
YEAR TO DATE 1987	1,289.95	160.35	1,450.30	493.85	91.10	584.95	1,783.80	251.45	2,035.25
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	-5.9	-5.5	-5.9	+29.2	+13.6	+26.7	+3.8	+1.4	+3.5

Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,830.50	$ 288.30	$2,118.80	$ 999.50	$2,036.75	$ 286.90	$2,323.65
1988							
JAN	$ 266.05	$ 31.45	$ 297.50	$1,153.65	$ 125.65	$ 17.70	$ 143.35
FEB	$ 258.85	$ 39.20	$ 298.05	$1,285.25	$ 145.10	$ 21.35	$ 166.45
MAR	$ 222.05	$ 32.40	$ 254.45	$1,333.00	$ 185.75	$ 20.95	$ 206.70
APR	$ 193.45	$ 59.55	$ 253.00	$1,428.60	$ 133.90	$ 23.50	$ 157.40
MAY	$ 278.90	$ 45.80	$ 324.70	$1,573.60	$ 157.60	$ 22.10	$ 179.70
JUN	$ 345.25	$ 37.55	$ 382.80	$1,742.35	$ 185.25	$ 28.80	$ 214.05
JUL	$ 221.35	$ 33.60	$ 254.95	$1,809.60	$ 169.90	$ 17.80	$ 187.70
AUG	$ 252.80	$ 86.70	$ 339.50	$1,995.15	$ 133.75	$ 20.20	$ 153.95
SEP	$ 304.60	$ 23.60	$ 328.20	$2,095.80	$ 199.20	$ 28.35	$ 227.55
OCT	$ 239.25	$ 23.00	$ 262.25	$2,145.90	$ 178.65	$ 33.50	$ 212.15
NOV (P)	$ 230.85	$ 48.20	$ 279.05	$2,167.40	$ 236.85	$ 20.70	$ 257.55
11 MONTHS	$2,813.40	$ 461.05	$3,274.45		$1,851.60	$ 254.95	$2,106.55

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,949.10	$ 303.40	$2,252.50	$ 118.60	$ 15.10	$ 133.70
1988						
JAN	$ 268.95	$ 32.30	$ 301.25	$ 2.90	$ .85	$ 3.75
FEB	$ 265.15	$ 39.35	$ 304.50	$ 6.30	$ .15	$ 6.45
MAR	$ 227.55	$ 33.10	$ 260.65	$ 5.50	$ .70	$ 6.20
APR	$ 208.15	$ 62.00	$ 270.15	$ 14.70	$ 2.45	$ 17.15
MAY	$ 287.20	$ 46.10	$ 333.30	$ 8.30	$ .30	$ 8.60
JUN	$ 352.35	$ 38.95	$ 391.30	$ 7.10	$ 1.40	$ 8.50
JUL	$ 227.60	$ 34.10	$ 261.70	$ 6.25	$ .50	$ 6.75
AUG	$ 262.05	$ 88.05	$ 350.10	$ 9.25	$ 1.35	$ 10.60
SEP	$ 314.25	$ 25.30	$ 339.55	$ 9.65	$ 1.70	$ 11.35
OCT	$ 255.90	$ 24.45	$ 280.35	$ 16.65	$ 1.45	$ 18.10
NOV (P)	$ 244.20	$ 50.40	$ 294.60	$ 13.35	$ 2.20	$ 15.55
11 MONTHS	$2,913.35	$ 474.10	$3,387.45	$ 99.95	$ 13.05	$ 113.00

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,294.45	$ 157.00	$1,451.45	$ 672.20	$1,498.85	$ 177.65	$1,676.50
1988							
JAN	$ 205.75	$ 18.20	$ 223.95	$ 824.95	$ 61.60	$ 9.60	$ 71.20
FEB	$ 217.95	$ 32.45	$ 250.40	$ 966.45	$ 97.00	$ 11.90	$ 108.90
MAR	$ 174.15	$ 17.75	$ 191.90	$1,020.60	$ 123.95	$ 13.80	$ 137.75
APR	$ 146.45	$ 48.85	$ 195.30	$1,120.60	$ 82.20	$ 13.10	$ 95.30
MAY	$ 205.65	$ 37.20	$ 242.85	$1,252.20	$ 100.25	$ 11.00	$ 111.25
JUN	$ 210.65	$ 27.70	$ 238.35	$1,357.75	$ 116.00	$ 16.80	$ 132.80
JUL	$ 167.55	$ 19.45	$ 187.00	$1,410.05	$ 126.15	$ 8.55	$ 134.70
AUG	$ 179.30	$ 82.20	$ 261.50	$1,566.15	$ 93.00	$ 12.40	$ 105.40
SEP	$ 252.95	$ 13.55	$ 266.50	$1,681.45	$ 133.50	$ 17.70	$ 151.20
OCT	$ 199.25	$ 16.15	$ 215.40	$1,750.95	$ 123.35	$ 22.55	$ 145.90
NOV (P)	$ 164.60	$ 23.80	$ 188.40	$1,768.55	$ 156.70	$ 14.10	$ 170.80
11 MONTHS	$2,124.25	$ 337.30	$2,461.55		$1,213.70	$ 151.50	$1,365.20

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,365.85	$ 167.35	$1,533.20	$ 71.40	$ 10.35	$ 81.75
1988						
JAN	$ 207.35	$ 18.80	$ 226.15	$ 1.60	$ .60	$ 2.20
FEB	$ 221.05	$ 32.55	$ 253.60	$ 3.10	$ .10	$ 3.20
MAR	$ 178.10	$ 17.95	$ 196.05	$ 3.95	$ .20	$ 4.15
APR	$ 150.30	$ 50.50	$ 200.80	$ 3.85	$ 1.65	$ 5.50
MAY	$ 210.40	$ 37.45	$ 247.85	$ 4.75	$ .25	$ 5.00
JUN	$ 216.85	$ 29.00	$ 245.85	$ 6.20	$ 1.30	$ 7.50
JUL	$ 172.40	$ 19.70	$ 192.10	$ 4.85	$ .25	$ 5.10
AUG	$ 186.20	$ 83.15	$ 269.35	$ 6.90	$ .95	$ 7.85
SEP	$ 260.45	$ 14.40	$ 274.85	$ 7.50	$ .85	$ 8.35
OCT	$ 210.30	$ 17.55	$ 227.85	$ 11.05	$ 1.40	$ 12.45
NOV (P)	$ 176.50	$ 25.65	$ 202.15	$ 11.90	$ 1.85	$ 13.75
11 MONTHS	$2,189.90	$ 346.70	$2,536.60	$ 65.65	$ 9.40	$ 75.05

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$ 536.05	$ 131.30	$ 667.35	$ 327.30	$ 537.90	$ 109.25	$ 647.15
1988							
JAN	$ 60.30	$ 13.25	$ 73.55	$ 328.70	$ 64.05	$ 8.10	$ 72.15
FEB	$ 40.90	$ 6.75	$ 47.65	$ 318.80	$ 48.10	$ 9.45	$ 57.55
MAR	$ 47.90	$ 14.65	$ 62.55	$ 312.40	$ 61.80	$ 7.15	$ 68.95
APR	$ 47.00	$ 10.70	$ 57.70	$ 308.00	$ 51.70	$ 10.40	$ 62.10
MAY	$ 73.25	$ 8.60	$ 81.85	$ 321.40	$ 57.35	$ 11.10	$ 68.45
JUN	$ 134.60	$ 9.85	$ 144.45	$ 384.60	$ 69.25	$ 12.00	$ 81.25
JUL	$ 53.80	$ 14.15	$ 67.95	$ 399.55	$ 43.75	$ 9.25	$ 53.00
AUG	$ 73.50	$ 4.50	$ 78.00	$ 429.00	$ 40.75	$ 7.80	$ 48.55
SEP	$ 51.65	$ 10.05	$ 61.70	$ 414.35	$ 65.70	$ 10.65	$ 76.35
OCT	$ 40.00	$ 6.85	$ 46.85	$ 394.95	$ 55.30	$ 10.95	$ 66.25
NOV (P)	$ 66.25	$ 24.40	$ 90.65	$ 398.85	$ 80.15	$ 6.60	$ 86.75
11 MONTHS	$ 689.15	$ 123.75	$ 812.90		$ 637.90	$ 103.45	$ 741.35

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$ 583.25	$ 136.05	$ 719.30	$ 47.20	$ 4.75	$ 51.95
1988						
JAN	$ 61.60	$ 13.50	$ 75.10	$ 1.30	$ .25	$ 1.55
FEB	$ 44.10	$ 6.80	$ 50.90	$ 3.20	$ .05	$ 3.25
MAR	$ 49.45	$ 15.15	$ 64.60	$ 1.55	$ .50	$ 2.05
APR	$ 57.85	$ 11.50	$ 69.35	$ 10.85	$ .80	$ 11.65
MAY	$ 76.80	$ 8.65	$ 85.45	$ 3.55	$ .05	$ 3.60
JUN	$ 135.50	$ 9.95	$ 145.45	$ .90	$ .10	$ 1.00
JUL	$ 55.20	$ 14.40	$ 69.60	$ 1.40	$ .25	$ 1.65
AUG	$ 75.85	$ 4.90	$ 80.75	$ 2.35	$ .40	$ 2.75
SEP	$ 53.80	$ 10.90	$ 64.70	$ 2.15	$ .85	$ 3.00
OCT	$ 45.60	$ 6.90	$ 52.50	$ 5.60	$ .05	$ 5.65
NOV (P)	$ 67.70	$ 24.75	$ 92.45	$ 1.45	$ .35	$ 1.80
11 MONTHS	$ 723.45	$ 127.40	$ 850.85	$ 34.30	$ 3.65	$ 37.95

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology